

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 01600 281304Z

53

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ( ISO ) W

----- 066191

O 281146Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 257

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMCONSUL UDORN

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

USSAG NAKHON PHANOM

DIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 1600

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PINR, TH

SUBJ: THAI ELECTION CENTRAL--RESULTS AS OF 1730 JANUARY 28

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF : BANGKOK 1513

SUMMARY: WHILE THE DEMOCRAT PARTY HAS A COMMANDING LEAD OVER ANY OTHER PARTY, BOTH CONSERVATIVE AND CENTRIST GROUPINGS ARE ALMOST EQUALLY BALANCED ACCORDING TO UNOFFICIAL RETURNS FROM THE 26 JANUARY 1975 THAI PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS. TWENTY-TWO POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE ACHIEVED REPRESENTATION IN THE NEW PARLIAMENT. THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 01600 281304Z

ELECTION RESULTS SHOWED A DEFINITE REJECTION OF MANY WELL-

KNOWN FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS. THIRTEEN SPLINTER PARTIES CONTROL 34 VOTES IN THE PARLIAMENT, BUT SOME PARTIES ARE WITHOUT RANKING PARTY OFFICIALS IN THEIR REPRESENTATION. THE SIZE OF THE SPLINTER PARTIES FOCUSES ATTENTION ON THE PROVISIONS IN THE 1974 CONSTITUTION WHICH STATE THAT A PARLIAMENTARIAN MAY LOSE HIS SEAT IF HE SWITCHES PARTIES. END SUMMARY.

1. THE LATEST LIST FROM THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR FOR ALL THE 269 PARLIAMENTARY RACES SHOWS THE FOLLOWING PARTY STRENGTHS:

A. CONSERVATIVES

SOCIAL JUSTICE	45
THAI NATION	28
SOCIAL AGRARIAN	19
SOCIAL NATIONALIST	16
SUB-TOTAL	108

B. CENTRIST

DEMOCRAT	72
SOCIAL ACTION	18
NEW FORCE	12
SUB-TOTAL	102

C. LEFTISTS

SOCIAL PARTY	15
SOCIALIST UNITED FRONT	10
SUB-TOTAL	25

D. OTHERS

PEACEFUL PEOPLE	8
PEOPLES' JUSTICE	6
THAI	4
THAI NATIONAL	
REGENERATION	3
DEMOCRACY	2
SOVEREIGNTY	2
PEOPLES' POWER	2
THAI TERRITORY	2
PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT	1
FARMERS	1
ECONOMIST	1
LABOR	1
FREE PEOPLE	1
SUB-TOTAL	34

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BANGKO 01600 281304Z

TOTAL	269
-------	-----

2. BOTH THE CONSERVATIVE AND CENTRIST GROUPINGS ARE ALMOST EVENLY MATCHED. THE PENULTIMATE PROBLEM IN DEVISING A PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY STEMS FROM THE LARGE BLOC OF 34 VOTES WHICH THE 13 SPLINTER PARTIES CONTROL. THIS "BLOC" OF VOTES IS LARGER THAN THE PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION OF ALL BUT TWO OF THE MAJOR PARTIES.

3. THE DEMOCRAT SHOWING IS IMPRESSIVE, BUT SIMILAR TO ITS PAST PERFORMANCES. IN THE 1969 ELECTION THE DEMOCRATS SECURED 26 PERCENT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SEATS. THE PARTY AGAIN SCORED 26 PERCENT THIS TIME, DESPITE KEENER COMPETITION FROM THE SOCIAL ACTION AND NEW FORCE PARTIES. MOST OBSERVORS HAD ANTICIPATED THAT THESE TWO NEW PARTIES WOULD CUT INTO THE DEMOCRAT TOTALS. IN TAKING SOME OF THE 50 NEW SEATS IN THE EXPANDED PARLIAMENT AND DEFEATING FORMER UNITED THAI PEOPLES' PARTY (UTPP) PARLIAMENTARIANS, THE THREE PARTIES OF THE CENTRIST BLOC ACTUALLY GAINED VOTES OVER 1969.

4. THE RESULTS FROM INDIVIDUAL RACES SHOW A DEFINITE REJECTION OF FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS. ONE LOCAL ANALYSIS REPORTS THAT ONLY 55 FORMER UTPP PARLIAMENTARIANS WILL BE IN THE NEW PARLIAMENT. A GLANCE THROUGH THE LIST OF WINNERS REVEALS THAT VOTERS IN ANGTHONG, CHANTHABURI, NAKHON PATHOM, AND PATHUM THANI PROVINCES REJECTED FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS REGARDLESS OF PARTY AFFILIATION. THE UTPP PARLIAMENTARY "OLD GUARD", YUANG IAMSILA (UDORN), MRS. SA-NGUAN SIMAN (PRACHINBURI), BUNTHOM YENMANOT (SAMUT PRAKAN), WIM WIMONMAN (KHORAT), SAWANG UNAPHROM (KHORAT), AND NOM UPPRAMAI (NAKHON SI THAMMARAT), TO MENTION A FEW, HAVE ALL LOST OUT TO NEW PERSONALITIES.

5. WHILE ELEVEN POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS WON THEIR ELECTION BIDS, TWENTY-TWO, INCLUDING THAWIT KLINPRATHUM (SOCIAL JUSTICE), LOST THEIR RACES. ANOTHER NINE LEADERS DID NOT STAND. OF THE THIRTEEN SPLINTER PARTIES, TWO PARTY LEADERS WON ELECTION, AS DID TWO PARTY SECRETARIES-GENERAL AND TWO DEPUTY PARTY LEADERS, REPRESENTING A TOTAL OF FIVE PARTIES. THE 28 PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIVES FROM EIGHT OTHER SPLINTER PARTIES, HOWEVER, ARE NOT RANKING PARTY OFFICIALS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 BANGKO 01600 281304Z

6. THE SMALL SPLINTER PARTIES WILL BE A BOTHERSOME FACTOR IN COALITION POLITICS FOR SOME TIME. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 124 OF THE 1974 CONSTITUTION, MEMBERSHIP IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TERMINATES UPON 1) RESIGNATION FROM MEMBERSHIP IN A POLITICAL PARTY OR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE POLITICAL PARTY; 2) LOSS OF POLITICAL PARTY MEMBERSHIP AS A RESULT OF A COURT ORDER; OR 3) LOSS OF PARTY MEMBERSHIP AS A RESULT OF A POLITICAL PARTY RESOLUTION. IN THE LATTER TWO CASES, HOWEVER, IF A PARLIAMENTARIAN CAN JOIN ANOTHER POLITICAL PARTY WITHIN 60 DAYS, HE DOES NOT LOSE HIS SEAT. THE CONSTITUTION'S DRAFTERS TURNED TO THESE PROVISIONS TO CORRECT AN EARLIER ABUSE WHERE INDIVIDUALS SWITCHED PARTIES AFTER THE ELECTION. THE RULING COALITION THUS WILL APPARENTLY HAVE TO COME TO SOME ACCOMMODATION WITH THE SPLINTER PARTIES SINCE THE CONSTITUTION MAKES ABSORBING THEM OUTRIGHT MORE DIFFICULT.

KINTNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS, LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BANGKO01600  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750031-0363  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750116/aaaaanot.tel  
**Line Count:** 170  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BANGKOK 1513  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THAI ELECTION CENTRAL--RESULTS AS OF 1730 JANUARY 28 CINCPAC FOR POLAD  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PINT, PINR, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006